(b) whether an India doctor has disclosed this fact in the research paper submitted in Canada;

(c) whether it was a conspiracy of someone to have project such exaggerated figures and if so, whether the matter has been investigated; and

(d) the actual number of AIDS patients at present?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) No, Sir. The estimated number of HIV infected persons prior to 2006 was based on annual sentinel surveillance reports. The estimation showed adult prevalence to be 0.9%.

(b) Yes, Sir. The study carried out in one district in Andhra Pradesh suggested that the estimates based on sentinel surveillance were higher than the community based study.

(c) No, Sir. Does not arise.

(d) As per 2006 estimation, it is estimated that there are 2-3.1 million HIV infected persons with adult prevalence of 0.36% in the country. As per report received from the State Health Authorities, 194697 AIDS cases have been reported since 1991 till October, 2007. These revised estimations are as a result of expanded surveillance sites, better tools of analysis and improved quality of data.

Spurious life saving drugs

1253. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:
SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the business of manufacturing of spurious life saving drugs in the country and their import from other countries is continuously increasing;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that according to a latest Interpol report the business of spurious drugs has established itself firmly; and

(c) if so, the details of measures adopted by Government to control it?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) No, Sir. As per the information available in the Ministry of Health & FW, it does not indicate that the business of manufacturing of spurious life saving drugs in the country and their import from other countries is continuously increasing.

As per information available from State Drugs Control Organizations 0.288%, 0.292% and 0.267% of samples were reported to be spurious during last three years *i.e.* 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 respectively.

With regard to imported samples 0.1414% were reported to be spurious during the year 2006-07 and 2007-08 till date.

(b) There is no data available in the Ministry of Health & FW in respect of Interpol report that the business of spurious drugs has established itself firmly.

(c) All manufacturing and sale of drugs is controlled under the various provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules there under, The manufacture of spurious drugs is a clandestine activity generally indulged in by unlicensed manufacturers and when they are detected, action is taken as per law.

A Bill has already been introduced in the Parliament to provide stricter penalties, provision for special courts for speedy trial of drug related offences, compounding offences authorizing the Police also to file prosecution for drugs related offences and making all such offences cognizable and non-bailable.

Legislation for punishment for denying emergency treatment

1254. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has prepared a legislation to stipulate punishment including six months imprisonment alongwith fine of Rs. 10,000 to the doctor or persons running the hospitals if any emergency treatment is denied;

(b) if so, what are the main other features of the proposed law; and

(c) by when it is likely to be passed?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) The Law Commission of India in the 201st report on "Emergency Medical Care to Victims of Accidents and during Emergency Medical Condition and Women under Labour" have suggested a model law which, *inter-alia* provides for punishment for a period which may extend upto six months or for fine which may extend upto rupees ten thousand or for both. The said report of the Law Commission of India has been laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 19.11.2007. Health being a State subject, it is for the State Governments to get enacted legislation based on this model law.

Regulatory framework for medical colleges

1255. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Knoweldge Commission has recommended an independent regulatory framework for medical colleges in the country in place of the Medical Council of India, as the Commission felt that there is a progressive decline in medical institutions in the country;

(b) whether the Commission also felt that MCI, in practice, is only a recommendatory body without genuine autonomy and that it is unable to discharge its present repsonsibility, leave aside the purpose for which it was constituted;

(c) if so, whether Government has accepted the panel's recommendations; and

(d) by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) The working group on medical education formed by the National